

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2337)
New York Road
Plattsburgh
Clinton County
New York

HAER No. NY-326-BO

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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HAER No. NY-326-BO

Location: New York Road, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622220.4947600
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

Date of Construction: 1960

Architect/Engineer: Unknown

Present Owner: United States Air Force

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: Building No. 2337 provided classroom, assembly, library, cafeteria, recreational, and support space for the educational purposes of a segment of the school-age dependents of Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) military personnel.

Project Information: Building No. 2337 at Plattsburgh AFB is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

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Summary Description of Elementary School (Building No. 2337)

Layout

Building No. 2337 is a one-story, flat roof building, constructed atop a concrete slab. Its linear organization allows fenestration, for the most part, to be arranged in bands of horizontally sliding sash windows. Building No. 2337 is essentially "L" shaped in plan, with a "T" shaped offset at its south end. The building is clad on the exterior in brick veneer, applied over concrete block, load-bearing walls. The brick pattern employed on the building is unusual in places, in that every 6th brick laid in every 10th row is recessed, providing a play of shade and shadow on an otherwise barren plane. In many parts of the building, roof overhangs or applied canopy projections provide for sheltered, outside passageways.

For the most part, classrooms and associated space on the interior of the building are arranged off long double loaded corridors, as is typical of many single-story school facilities

Alterations/Additions

There have been no known additions or alterations to Building No. 2337

Function

Building No. 2337 was designed, built, and used as an educational facility.

Significance

The people who flew, maintained and supported the mission of Plattsburgh AFB during the Cold War contributed to America's most important military mission—nuclear deterrence as part of the strategic triad. They performed with sacrifice, dedication and excellence. Moreover, because the overall Strategic Air Command (SAC) mission required large numbers of military personnel to live in close proximity to critical base areas needing to be manned at a moment's notice, it was necessary that facilities be provided which could afford these airmen—and their families—with a sense of community within which to perform their assigned duties. Given that schools are essential to any American community, the Elementary School, Building No. 2337, at Plattsburgh AFB played an important role in the lives of the military personnel and their dependents. And, it is for that reason that it played an important part in support of the larger SAC mission.

Sources

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United States Air Force

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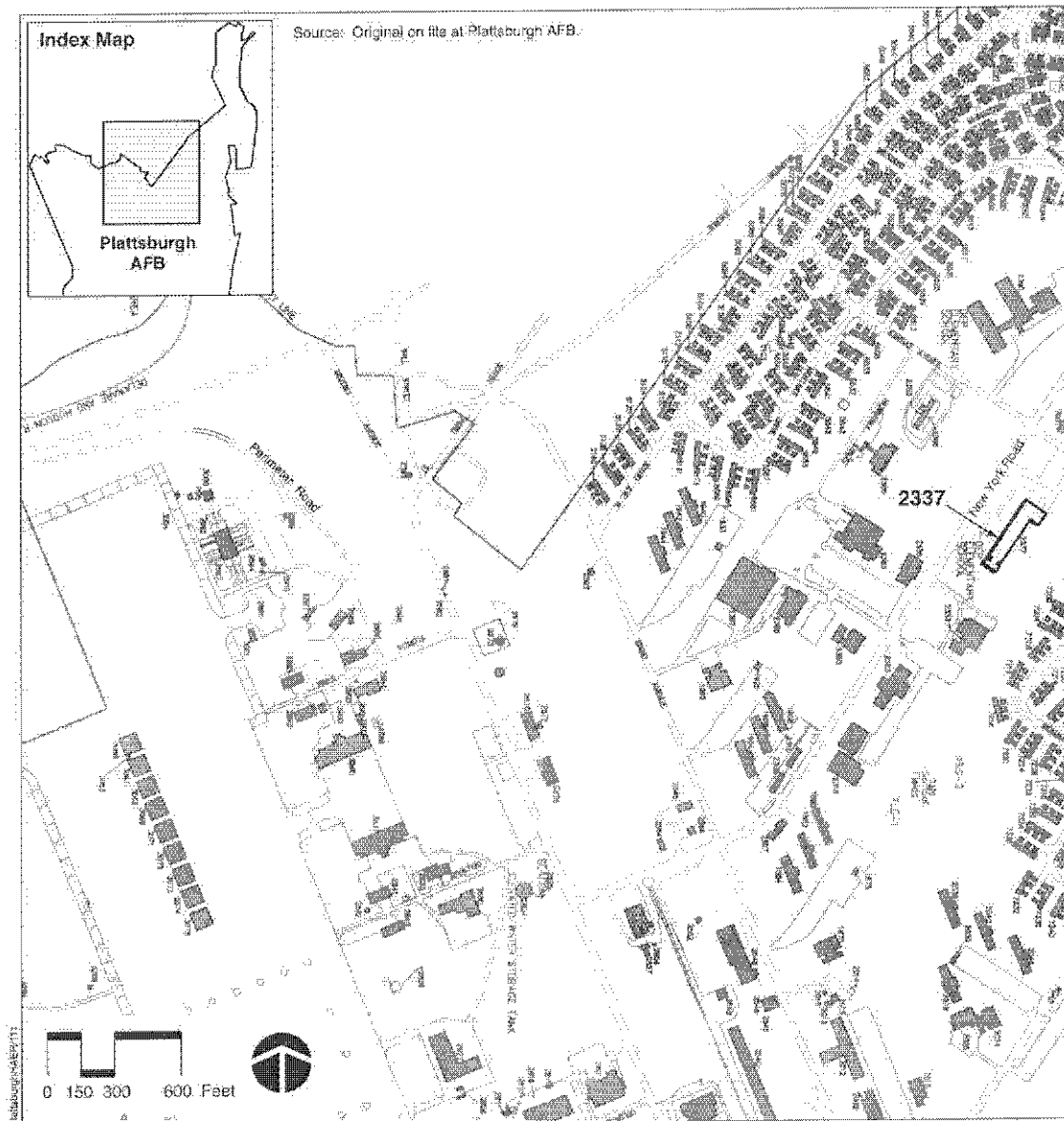
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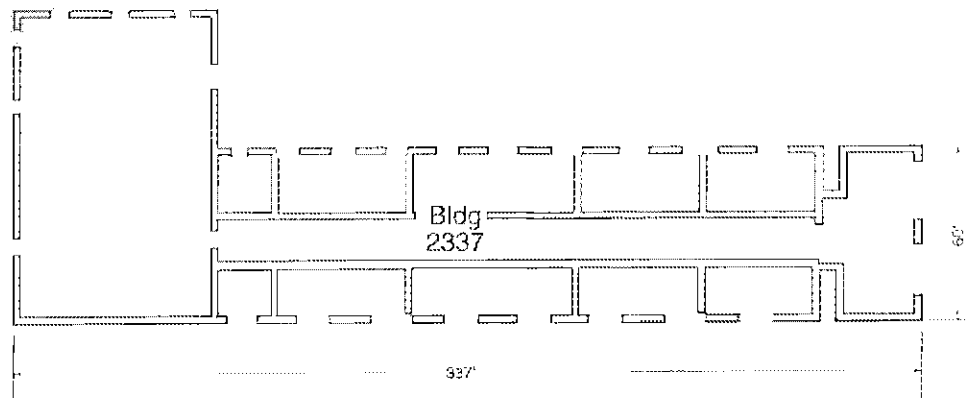
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Location Map for Elementary School Building, Building No. 2337
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Sketch not to Scale

SKETCH PLAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2337)
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)
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